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Wednesday, 19 November 1947

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INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL FOR THE FAR EAST Court House of the Tribunal War Ministry Building Tokyo, Japan

The Tribunal met, pursuant to adjournment,

Appearances:

at 0930.

For the Tribunal, all Members sitting, with the exception of: HONORABIE JUSTICE SIR WILLIAM F. WEBB, Member from the Commonwealth of Australia and HONORABLE JUSTICE R. B. PAL, Member from India, not sitting from 0930 to 1600.

For the Prosecution Section, same as before. For the Defense Section, same as before.

(English to Japanese and Japanese to English interpretation was made by the Language Section, IMTFE.) Knapp & Kapleau

MARSHAL OF THE COURT: The International Military Tribunal for the Far East is now in session.

ACTING PRESIDENT: All the accused are present except MATSUI, who is represented by counsel. We have a certificate from the prison surgeon at Sugamo certifying that he is ill and unable to attend the trial today. The certificate will be recorded and filed.

Mr. Cole.

MR. COLE: May it please the Tribunal, I understand that immediately after the noon recess yesterday your Honor inquired about further proceedings in connection with Colonel ISHII.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. COLE: On behalf of General MUTO it has been decided that we will seek no further or additional direct examination either by affidavit or interrogatory or directly. That leaves us in the position of waiting upon the prosecution for their decision as to whether they want cross-examination, and if so, whether by interrogatory or directly. Upon speaking with Mr. Tavenner about it, I was advised that that decision in turn must await such time as he can talk with Mr. Lopez, which will be probably

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24 25 this weekend. I can give no further word, as I am awaiting an answer from them.

ACTING PRESIDENT: I shall expect to hear from Mr. Tavenner by next Monday.

MR. COLE: Yes, sir.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Commander Cole.

TAKAZUMI OKA, an accused, resumed the stand and testified through Japanese interpreters as follows:

COMMANDER COLE: At the close of court yesterday the last question had not been answered. Will the Court Reporter repeat the question?

(Whereupon the official Court Reporter read as follows:)

"Q Admiral, your many years in the navy's chief political bureau, your promotions, decorations, and activities indicate that you were very successful in giving to TOJO and his navy supporters such as SHIMADA your unquestioning obedience; is that not so?"

THE WITNESS: That is completely contrary to facts. In the first place, the Naval Affairs Bureau of the Navy Ministry has nothing to do with politics.

As far as the navy is concerned, it has traditionally

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not touched on political questions. Only the Minister of the Navy, as a minister of state, has the authority to participate in political affairs; but according to the past history and tradition of the Japanese Navy, in accordance with that tradition, I have not heard of a Navy Minister ever positively engaging in political action.

Now next with regard to decorations. decorations mentioned by you, Mr. Prosecutor -- The decoration to which you have referred, Mr. Prosecutor, was granted to me for meritorious services in connection with the China Affair. As you perhaps know, the Order of the Golden Kite consists of seven classes, Class 1 to Class 7. At that time when decorations were granted for meritorious services, Navy Minister YONAI was granted the order of the Golden Kite, Class 1. Among navy officers who received decorations of Class 2 and Class 3 --

THE INTERPRETER: Correction: The number of naval officers who were granted decorations of Class 2 and Class 3 numbered several hundreds.

I was granted Class 4 of the order, but the decoration was granted -- received by me for services rendered up to April, 1940, and as of the date of April 15.

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THE INTERPRETER: Correction: The number of naval officers who were granted decorations of Class 2 and Class 3 numbered several hundreds.

I was granted Class 4 of the order, but the decoration was granted -- received by me for services rendered up to April, 1940, and as of the date of April 15.

As there are many decorations, the actual granting of these decorations are, as a general rule, delayed. I received my decoration sometime later, in 1942, and therefore this decoration has nothing to do with anything that I did after April, 1940. The decoration, furthermore, has nothing to do with Prime Minister TOJO or Navy Minister SHIMADA. Now, as to my--

THE INTERPRETER: Correction: Next with regard to my promotion, due to the lapse of a certain period of service, I was promoted to Vice-Admiral, together with twenty others of my colleagues, and in connection with this promotion there were no special circumstances.

Next with regard to my activities, I have performed the duties of Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau in accordance with the established regulations governing the functions of the Navy Ministry and my department, and pursuant to the orders and instructions and at the supervision of my chief, the Minister of the Navy, performing my duties faithfully in accordance with the regulations and orders --

THE INTERPRETER: Correction: Before "supervision" insert -- After "supervision" insert "supervision of the Vice-Minister."

ACTING PRESIDENT: I think you have fully

answered the question that was asked you and gone far beyond it.

out that the question includes his promotions, his

decorations, and his activities, and states that they

indicate certain conclusions. This witness is simply

attempting, I believe, to answer and show what those

activities actually indicated.

MR. ROBERTS: If your Honor please, not meaning to be disrespectful, I would like to point

ACTING PRESIDENT: Have you anything further you want to say?

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THE WITNESS: Yes.

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ACTING PRESIDENT: Go ahead, and make it as

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short as possible.

(Continuing) Moreover, I have never received

Minister of the Navy, nor was I in a position in which

any direction or order from anyone other than the

I had to receive directions and orders from any other party. For that reason I have never received any

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orders from Prime Minister TOJO. Furthermore, I do

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not recognize that the navy as a whole supported General

13 14 TOJO or supported the TOJO Cabinet. Furthermore, I have not contacted anybody outside of the scope of my official

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functions.

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THE INTERPRETER: Correction: Furthermore, I have never contacted or had any intercourse with

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political persons outside the scope of my own official functions.

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THE MONITOR: The previous answer should be deleted.

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Admiral, on page 37 of your affidavit, para-

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graph 45, you state that there was no basis for the rumor that you had power and influence among a so-called 25 group. What group did you refer to?

ACTING PRESIDENT: Have you anything further you want to say?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Go ahead, and make it as short as possible.

A (Continuing) Moreover, I have never received any direction or order from anyone other than the Minister of the Navy, nor was I in a position in which I had to receive directions and orders from any other party. For that reason I have never received any orders from Prime Minister TOJO. Furthermore, I do not recognize that the navy as a whole supported General TOJO or supported the TOJO Cabinet. Furthermore, I have not contacted anybody outside of the scope of my official functions.

THE INTERPRETER: Correction: Furthermore, I have never contacted or had any intercourse with political persons outside the scope of my own official functions.

THE MONITOR: The previous answer should be deleted.

Q Admiral, on page 37 of your affidavit, paragraph 45, you state that there was no basis for the rumor that you had power and influence among a so-called group. What group did you refer to?

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 A I am not pointing to any particular or specific group; I am just referring to various individuals. Furthermore, I do not know what these -- any specific groups actually did, what activities they engaged in.

Q Is it not a fact that while you were Chief of Section 1 and subsequently Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau, there was at that time a group of young army and navy officers who favored the use of force in dealing with China?

A There may have been, but I knew of no specific instances.

Q Together with other members of the young officers' group you had meetings and carried on secret plans connected with the China Affair, did you not?

A I have no recollection.

Is it not a fact that in June 1938, while you were Chief of Section 1, Naval Affairs Bureau, you and General KAGESA of the Military Affairs Bureau and a certain KISHI dined tagether every week and talked on various matters concerning the China Affair?

A I now recall by the prosecutor's last question that KISHI at that time was private secretary to Prime Minister KONOYE. KAGESA at that time was either a member of the Military Affairs Bureau of the War Office

 or Chief of the Military Affairs Section of the Military Affairs Bureau.

At that time, in accordance with the orders of Prime Minister KONOYE, Mr. KICHI met once a week with the Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau and the Chief of the Military Affairs Bureau for the purpose of exchanging information on various topics, and at that time I attended these meetings as the Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau, with the permission of the Vice-Minister of the Navy.

At this date, I do not recall what actually was discussed at these meetings, but in view of the fact that the China Incident at that time was the foremost question confronting Japan, I presume that we heard many explanations and reports with regard to China from KAGESA, who was a China expert.

IR. ROBERTS: I am informed that there is a mistranslation in his answer, as being Chief of the lilitary Affairs Bureau at that time. I ask that it be referred for correction.

ACTING PRESIDENT: What office did you hold at that time?

THE WITNESS: I was Chief of Section 1 of the Naval Affairs Bureau.

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Q And was not Major General KAGESA the Chief of the similar section of the Military Affairs Bureau at that time?

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A I think so, but I do not remember. He might have been just a member of the bureau.

O Did not KISHI call this gathering a meeting of the three ministers?

A I do not know. I don't think that was so.

In June 1938, at the time of these meetings, did not KISHI state that KAGESA would bring over a certain Kao Tsung-wu, who until recently had been Chief of the Asia Bureau of the Chiang Government, and confine him in the Kaikosha, or the army club?

A He might have, but I do not remember.

And did not KISHI state as to this scheme devised by the young officers that it should be kept a secret and should not be mentioned to the War Hinister?

A I do not remember.

In your affidavit, page 37, paragraph 45, you state that as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau you had no authority to determine or approve of matters of state policy. Is that correct?

A Yes, exactly.

Greenberg & Yelden

Q Is it not a fact that as early as 1938 you as Chief of the First Section of the Naval Affairs
Bureau were already participating in conferences with representatives of the Army Military Affairs Bureau in order to expedite the performance of matters in relation to China?

MR. ROBERTS: May I object on the ground that the question is not definite. What "performance of matters" means I do not know and I am not sure the witness will know either. I object to the form of the question.

ACTING PRESIDENT: It is rather general. Can you not specify more particularly?

Q Do you recall having a conference with KAGESA of the Army Military Affairs Bureau on 30 August 1938 concerning the plans for the capture of Canton?

A I do not remember. I do not think that was possible because such a matter as the capture of Canton would be outside the province of the Military Affairs Bureau or the Naval Affairs Bureau. Correction: Outside of the province of the duties of the Chief of Section One of the Naval Affairs Bureau.

Q As a result of that conference you and KAGESA drew up a plan for the capture of Canton, did you not?

As I said before, that couldn't be possible because such matters were outside the scope of my duties.

Would it refresh your recollection if I recalled to you that you and KAGESA decided that the capture of Canton was only the application of overall policies and hence could be carried out without prior consideration by the Five Ministers' Conference?

No, no such decision was ever made.

And did not you and KAGESA decide that to leave the Canton operations to the Five Ministers' Conference might give rise to the charge that the prerogative of the Supreme Command had been violated?

Such decisions cannot be made by us. COMMANDER COLE: May the witness be shown IPS document 2779?

(Whereupon, a document was handed to the witness.)

Will the witness examine this document and state whether it appears to be a record of the conversation between himself and General KAGESA on 30 August 1938 concerning the capture of Canton?

I have seen the document.

Are the facts stated in this document substantially correct?

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A May I have the question repeated? I

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couldn't hear it.

THE MONITOR: Japanese court reporter: The Japanese court reporter didn't hear it either so we will do it again.

A (Continuing) I have no recollection whatsoever with regard to this. I only presume after having glanced through this document that it appears to have been some information imparted by KAGESA.

Q Does it refresh your recollection if I recall to you that this plan for the capture of Canton was to have the land forces land on the east side of Bias Bay in order to avoid friction with Britain?

A No, I have absolutely no knowledge of that.

Do you recognize the initials of the officials of the East Asia Bureau and Foreign Ministry which appear in the margin?

Yes.

O Do you have any reason to believe that this document, which is part of the official archives of the Japanese Foreign Office, is not correct?

A My name appears in this document but I have no recollection of the document. As to the contents, it does not say that it was a decision reached as a

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 through the contents you will note that this is nothing more than information heard. This is only my presumption but it appears to me from this document that KAGESA merely imparted information with regard to decisions made by the War Ministry and that this is a record of the report made by him; but I am totally unfamiliar -- I was then and even new am totally unfamiliar with the operational conditions at that time and because of that I cannot say whether the contents of this document are true or false.

Q You deny that the conversation between
yourself and OKA which is stated in the document to
have taken place on August 30, 1938 ever occurred?

THE MONITOR: Mr. Prosecutor, you said-COMMANDER COLE: Change that to "yourself and

KAGESA."

A I have absolutely no recollection of it.

Q On page 6 of your affidavit, paragraph 12-ACTING PRESIDENT: Are you through with the
question about that document?

COMMANDER COLE: Strike out that question.

ACTING PRESIDENT: What is the answer to my question?

COMMANDER COLE: I have one more question,

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your Honor.

Do you dony the authenticity of this document?

A I can neither deny nor confirm this document. I have no recollection. I have no recollection of the contents and I have no familiarity with the matters contained therein.

COMMANDER COLE: IPS document 2779 is offered in ovidence.

MR. ROBERTS: We object on the ground that it has not been identified.

THE PRESIDENT: The witness has not accepted that document as true and authentic. The document will be marked for identification only.

CLERK OF THE COURT: Prosecution document 2779 will receive exhibit No. 3474 for identification only.

(Whereupon, the document above referred to was marked prosecution exhibit No. 3474 for identification only.)

On page 6 of your affidavit, paragraph 12, 1 you state that the Naval Affairs Bureau performed routine duties under the supervision of the Navy Vice minister and the Director of the Nav 1 Affairs Bureau was never in a position to assume any independent responsibility vis-a-vis outside contacts. Do you mean that for all your official acts as Chief 8 of the Naval Affairs Bureau the defendant SHI...ADA

A With regard to any government regulations governing the organization and functions of government departments, the chief of bureau is merely -constitutes merely the staff of the minister of the department, and, therefore, it would amount to that legally.

The Bureau of Naval Affairs was the political and liaison branch of the Navy ...inistry, was it not?

As I told you before, there are no political functions in the Naval Affairs Bureau.

The Naval Affairs Bureau controlled the public relations of the whole Navy, did it not?

A Not all.

alone is responsible?

Q What other branch of the Navy handled public relations?

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A	All	bureaus	were	the	same.

O After you assumed office as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau on 15 October, 1940, is it not true that you acted in close liaison with General MUIO, the Chief of the military Affairs Bureau in connection with Imperial Conferences?

CROSS

A Whether it was close or not is another matter. Contacts were made on matters which were within our scope of duties.

Q Were you invited by the Emperor to attend the Fourth Imperial Conference on 13 November, 1940?

A may I have the date repeated?

(Whereupon, the Japanese court reporter read.)

A (Continuing) Probably so.

On proposals relative to the settlement of the China Incident, was it not?

A I do not quite remember.

Q Was it not a fact that the invitation of the Emperor for you to attend was made upon the request of the Cabinet?

A The circumstances, as I understand them, were these: The procedure by which any subject in Japan could appear in the presence of the Emperor

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was difficult. No one by his own free will appeared in the Imperial presence. And in my understanding, even when secretaries who would be in attendance at Imperial Conferences or at an Imperial Conference -- their names had to be channeled through the ministry of the Imperial Household as a matter of formal procedure.

Q Is it not a fact that it was decided at this time that since Imperial Conferences should consist, on principle, of those who bear responsibility for giving advice to his Majesty, the Chiefs of the Bureau of Naval Affairs and Bureau of Military Affairs were invited to join the Imperial Conferences in addition to the usual members in the past?

A I do not think so. I think secretaries were always in attendance in the past.

CO.M.ANDIR COLE: May the witness be shown exhibit 3455 which was previously marked for identification?

(Whereupon, a document was handed to the witness.)

Q Will you examine this document and state whether, on page 6 of the Japanese copy, it does not state that you, as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau, attended the Imperial Conference of 13 November, 1940

by Imperial order.

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A No, I don't see that on page 6. Just a minute, please. Yes, now I have found it.

Q In view of the fact that this is the first Imperial Conference you had attended, in view of the fact that it was upon the command of the Emperor, I assume that you would remember attending this conference; is that correct?

A I think I attended that meeting.

CO. ANDER COLE: . Lay exhibit 3455 be received in evidence?

R. ROBERTS: There has been no identification from this witness as to the authenticity or the correctness of the contents of this document. Therefore, I object to it.

ACTING PRESIDENT: The offer is refused at this time.

Q Admiral, are the facts stated in this document substantially correct?

A No, I cannot. This is entirely a matter of the Imperial Household department, and it is of a nature that I have never heard about before.

Q And in so far as the document states that you attended this Imperial Conference, it is correct, is it not?

A I think I attended this meeting because I attended most Imperial Conferences.

Q Does it refresh your recollection if I recall to you the fact that this Imperial Conference was held at 2 p.m., November 13, 1940 in the East

No. 1 Room of the Palace?

A Well, these Imperial Conferences were practically all held in the same room, so I cannot say:

Q		Do	you	have	any	reason	to	believe	that	this
docume	nt	isi	n't	uther	ntic	?				

A This is a matter referring to the Imperial Household Department so that is beyond the scope of my knowledge.

COMMANDER COLE: I have no more questions on that document.

Q On January 19, 1939, you were appointed a government commissioner on matters related to the Navy Ministry in the Diet, were you not?

- A In 1939 did you say?
- Q Yes.

A Yes, as Chief of the First Section of the Naval Affairs Bureau.

Q In this position you acted as liaison between the Navy and the Diet, did you not?

A No.

Q What were your duties?

A My duties were to provide materials and information to explainers whenever questions arose in the Diet which were related to matters in the charge of the Ministry of the Navy.

Q You were reappointed to this pesition in 1940, 1941, 1942, and 1943, were you not?

A Yes. This is a duty attached to the Chief of

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the Military Affairs Bureau -- Naval Affairs Bureau.

O In 1941 did you have anything to do with the reorganization of the I.R.A.A.?

A I have no recollection.

Q Is it not a fact that in March 1941 you and General MUTO drafted a joint plan for the reorganization of the I.R.A.A.?

A No, I do not recall.

Q Is it not also a fact that at that time you were strongly opposed to the weakening of the I.R.A.A. and favored a single party system?

A No.

COMMANDER COLE: May the witness by shown IPS document 3249?

(Thereupon, a document was handed to the witness.)

Q Will you examine this document and state whether it is an article from the Asahi Shimbun, dated 26 March 1941, which states that you and General MUTO were drafting a joint plan for the reorganization of the I.R.A.A.? Are the facts stated in this document -- in this newspaper article substantially correct?

A I have absolutely no recollection.

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Do you deny that you and General MUTO prepared such a joint plan?

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With regard to the Imperial Rule Assistance Association I was unfamiliar with it at the time of its establishment because I was not then Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau. It was after I became Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau that I became one of the councillors, if I am correct, of that body. I was asked to participate -- correction: I was asked by the Vice Minister to become one of the councillors of this organization because the government as a whole was to participate in the activities of the association. But as far as the Navy was concerned, it had little interest in the I.A.A.

THE INTERPRETER: Slight correction: Strike out "asked by the Vice Minister of the Navy" and insert "the Navy was asked that I be made one of the councillors."

(Continuing) And, therefore, there is no instance of the Navy engaging in any positive activities with reference to the I.R.A.A.. Hence, matters of the kind referred to in this document is completely outside of my recollection.

Does it refresh your recollection if I recall to you that you and General MUTO in your capacities

1	as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau and Chief of the
1	Army Affairs Bureau had an interview with Cabinet
2	Secretary TOMITA on or about March 26 at which a de-
3	tailed account of the government's plan of reorganiza-
4	tion of the I.R.A.A. was given?
5	A Did you say the government's reorganization
6	plan?
7	Q Yes.
8	A No, there was absolutely no such case.
9	O Do you deny that you as Chief of the Naval
10	Affairs Bureau had any part in this joint Army and
12	Navy plan for the reorganization of the I.R.A.A.?
13	A What appears on this newspaper is completely
14	outside the pale of my recollection.
15	Q Is it not a fact that you and General MUTO
16	presented this joint plan to the Cabinet Executive
17	Secretary TOMITA on or about 27 March 1941?
18	A As I have said before I had hardly any
19	interest in the I.R.A.A. that I have no recollections
20	concerning it.
21	COMMANDER COLE: May the witness be shown
22	IPS document 3250?
23	(Whereupon, a document was handed to
24	(

Will you state whether this is an article

the witness.)

from the Asahi Shimbun of 28 March 1941 concerning the Army and Navy joint plan of reorganization of the I.R.A.A.?

Yes, something to that effect is written in A this article.

ACTING PRESIDENT: We will recess for fifteen minutes.

(Whereupon, at 1045, a recess was taken until 1100, after which the proceedings were resumed as follows:)

	IARSHAL OF THE COURT: The International
Military	ribunal for the Far East is now resumed.
	ACTING PRESIDENT: Commander Cole.

BY COMMANDER COLE (Continued):

Q Admiral, are the facts stated in this newspaper article substantially correct?

A As I have said before, I cannot conceive of my ever having participated in matters pertaining to the IRAA to that extent because of my lack of interest. And, therefore, there is nothing in my recollection pertaining to this matter. Furthermore, I do not know by what circumstances such an article ever appeared in the newspaper.

Q Did not you and General MUTO interview
Cabinet Secretary TOMITA in the Prime Minister's
residence on the 27th of March, 1941 and present the
joint plan at that time?

A I have no such recollection.

Q Does it refresh your recollection if I recall to you that at this interview you and General MUTO strongly urged that TOMITA be made the central figure in the IRAA in order to engage actively in campaigning?

A I do not think there was anything of the kind.

Q After the first newspaper article appeared in

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the Asahi newspaper did you notify the publishers that they were publishing erroneous statements regarding your political activities?

A As a matter of fact, I am seeing this article for the first time now. At that time I had -- this article did not even attract my attention.

Q You have previously testified, I believe, that according to the traditions of the Japanese Navy officers were not to engage in politics?

A Yes, exactly.

Q After both of these newspaper articles had been published, did you ever protest against these articles implicating you in political activities?

A As I have said before, I have never seen this article before, and I do not think that I did onything of the kind.

Q Irrespective of whether you ever saw either of these newspaper articles before, do you deny that all of the facts contained in them are false -- pardon me, are true?

A As I have said before, I have no recollection whatsoever; and as I have told you, I do not know under what circumstances such an article ever appeared in the newspapers. It is difficult for me to understand those circumstances, if any.

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The Naval Affairs Bureau acted as liaison between the general staff and the cabinet, did it not?

No.

It was the channel through which the navy made known its policies to the cabinet and vice versa, was it not?

Do you mean the Naval Affairs Bureau?

Q Yes.

No. A

On page 29 of the English copy of your affidavit you state that you never attended any cabinet meetings nor were you privileged to do so. When you said that you were not privileged to attend did you mean that as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau you were disqualified to attend such cabinet meetings or that you were never invited to attend?

I had no qualifications nor did I ever receive an invitation to attend.

Is it not a fact that you and General MUTO, Chief of the Army Military Affairs Bureau, attended an extraordinary session of the cabinet on 29 August 1941?

I do not remember. A

COMMANDER COLE: May the witness be shown IPS document 2534-E?

o Will the witness examine this document and state whether it is an article from the Tokyo Nichi Nichi of 30 August 1941?

A This document simply states that it is an excerpt from the Tokyo Nichi Nichi. That is all.

Now, speaking of the contents of this, this is not a meeting of the cabinet.

Q Does it not appear in this newspaper article that you attended the cabinet meeting of August 1941?

A No.

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MR. ROBERTS: Just a minute, please. I policet on the ground that the witness has stated that what he was looking at was an excerpt and not the newspaper article itself.

Q Will the witness examine the photostatic wopy of that newspaper excerpt?

18 A I was slightly mistaken before. As I see

18his photostatic copy it says there was an extra
28rdinary meeting of the cabinet following a cabinet

2meeting. I think this is erroneous reporting on the

2part of the newspaper because this is a peculiar

2styression, "an extraordinary meeting of the cabinet

4following a cabinet meeting."

Q Does it refresh your recollection if I recall

to you that at this cabinet meeting Foreign Minister TOYODA reported in detail on the latest diplomatic negotiations with the United States in the presence of yourself and General MUTO?

A I have no recollection, but that is not so if you would read this document.

Lo you deny that you attended such a cabinet meeting?

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I do not think this was a cabinet meeting.

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Q Irrespective of whether it was a cabinet meeting, do you deny that you attended a meeting of the

members of the cabinet at which Foreign Minister TOYODA

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gave a report on the Japanese-American diplomatic

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negotiations?

troops.

I do not think that I was ever in attendance at a meeting in which Foreign Minister TOYODA made a

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report to his cabinet colleagues.

articles marked for identification?

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Q During the negotiations prior to Pearl Harbor, did you oppose withdrawal of Japanese troops from China?

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I was not opposed to the withdrawal of Japanese

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ACTING PRESIDENT: Before you proceed any further, I see you are getting away from these newspaper articles. Does counsel wish the last three newspaper

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MR. ROBERTS: I think for future record they should be so marked.

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ACTING PRESIDENT: They will be so marked, then. CLERK OF THE COURT: The March 1941 issue of

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the Asahi Shimbun will receive exhibit No. 3475 for identification only. IPS document 3249, being an

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excerpt therefrom, will receive exhibit No. 3475-A. IPS document 3250, the second excerpt therefrom, will receive exhibit No. 3475-B. Prosecution document 4 2534-E will receive exhibit No. 3476; all of said exhibits being for identification only.

> (Whereupon, the document above referred to were marked prosecution exhibits No. 3475, 3475-A, 3475-B, and 3476, respectively, for identification.)

On the contrary, is it not a fact that you were strongly insistent upon Japanese troops remaining in China?

No, there was no such case.

You had a meeting with General MUTO on 6 September 1941 at the official residence of the Foreign Minister at which you and General MUTO discussed the basic conditions of settlement of the Sino-Japanese peace, did you not?

A I have no clear recollection, but there were frequent gatherings at the Foreign Office for the purpose of discussing the plan formulated by the Foreign Office, and, therefore, I believe that this was one of them.

And one of the terms agreed upon by you and General MUTO at that conference was that Japanese troops should remain stationed in Amoy and Hainan Island, as well as in certain districts of the Mongolian area and North China, is that not correct?

A I do not know the text of the decision to which you refer, but that may have been the case.

COMMANDER COLE: May the witness be shown exhibit 3456?

(Whereupon, a document was handed to the witness.)

Will you examine this document and state whether it is not the basic conditions for settlement of the Sino-Japanese peace as discussed in a conference between you and General MUTO on September 6, 1941?

A No, that is not so.

Q Directing your attention to paragraph No. 4, does that not state that for the purpose of joint defens Japanese troops shall be stationed in Amoy and Hainan Island, as well as in certain districts of Mongolia-Sinkiang area and North China?

A Yes, there is such a term.

Q Is it not also a fact the same condition and terms were included in exhibit 1245-F, which was the document containing the proposals of the Japanese Gevernment delivered to Ambassador Grew on September 22, 1941?

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No, I have no clear recollection,

Do you admit that the conference mentioned in this document between yourself and General MUTO took place on September 6, 1941?

I do not recall the date or the contents.

Is it not a fact that the basic terms discussed by you and General MUTO as they appear in this exhibit represent the maximum concessions beyond which the Japanese Government never went in its negotiations with the United States?

It says here that MUTO and I had conferred, but such a thing was impossible in so far as this matter was concerned. I think this is a Foreign Office plan discussed at a meeting sponsored by the Foreign Office with either the Vice-Minister or the Director of the American Bureau of the Foreign Office presiding, and if it is that conference, I think that I was in attendance there. Although I do not clearly recall its contents, it seems that the prosecutor's question intimated that this was the final plan. I do not think that was so.

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As I understand you, Admiral, you state 2 that you were present at this conference and you 3 to remember paragraph 4 in relation to the stationing 4 of Japanese troops in China; is that correct?

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No, I did not state so. I told you that I 6 do not recall the contents of this document, that I 7 do not recall the date nor the conference itself, and 8 although this document represents me and MUTO as 9 having conferred and having agreed on the terms set 10 forth therein, if you observe the form in which this 11 document is made out, it appears to me to be a Foreign 12 Office plan in connection with which a conference 13 was sponsored by the Foreign Office.

Q In other words, you mean that at a conference 15 between the Army and the Navy liaison chiefs, called by the Foreign Ministry to find out what the joint army and navy terms of peace for China were, in that case the Foreign Office prepared the terms of peace; is that correct?

I said that it appears to be a plan formulated by the Foreign Office, and that representatives of the Army and the Navy were called into consultation to discuss the plan.

Is it not true that the basic decision regarding the stationing of troops in China, which was

 arrived at at this conference, was the chief obstacle to the successful conclusion of the Japanese-American negotiations? Is that not so?

A No, not only this.

Q On 6 February, 1941, you were appointed to assist the Imperial Commissioner in arbitrating the dispute regarding the border of Indo-China and Siam, were you not?

A Yes, probably I was appointed to this commission.

Q Is it not true that four months later, en 25 June, 1941, you participated in the liaison conference at which it was decided to station troops in Indo-China and Siam and to acquire naval and air bases there by diplomacy, if possible, or otherwise by armed force?

A Well, I do not recall the contents and I do not know whether that is entirely correct or otherwise, but I attended a liaison conference which discussed matters similar to that.

Q Evidence has been introduced before the Tribunal to show that the total number of liaison conferences which you attended during the period from 13 January, 1941 to 30 June, 1941 was 24. Do you accept that total as substantially correct?

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A I heard that total, but I do not think it is correct.

COMMANDER COLE: In connection with the last two answers of the witness, prosecution wishes to refer the Tribunal to exhibit 1103, at record page 10,062.

Q After that period, that is, between June 30, 1941 and up to and including 8 December, 1941, how many liaison conferences did you attend?

How many liaison conferences I attended I do not recall, but I think that I attended practically all of them. However, there were times when I was ill and liaison conferences were held during my absence because of that illness, and there have been quite a number of times when I was absent because of that reason. Especially, I might point out, that while I was abed at home during illness -- as a result of illness -- and a liaison conference was held at such a time, there were times when I had to laugh out loud because there were press roports to the effect that I had attended a liaison conference which I had not attended on account of illness. So, if the prosecution has checked up the number of my attendances according to newspaper reports, the prosecution would be mistaken.

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Q On page 26 of your affidavit you say that you attended Imperial and liaison conferences with the exception of three or four times due to illness; is that correct?

A Yes.

Q During 1941 the military forces, including both the Army and the Navy, were using their representatives on the liaison conferences not only to interfere in politics, but to exercise even such control as to control and direct politics, is that not true?

MR. ROBERTS: I object on the ground that the question is argumentative.

ACTING PRESIDENT: If I understood the question correctly, you are asking him if some statement made in his affidavit is true.

COMMANDER COLE: No, your Honor. I was asking him to state a fact as to the liaison conferences which should be in his knowledge as a member of those conferences. The question concerned whether the liaison conferences were being used by the Army and Navy to interfere in politics.

MR. ROBERTS: It is certainly more of a statement by the prosecutor than a question.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Reporter, read the question back, please.

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MR. ROBERTS: It is certainly more of a statement by the prosecutor than a question.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Reporter, read the question back, please.

(Whereupon, the last question was read by the official court reporter.)

ACTING PRESIDENT: The objection is sustained to the question in that form.

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Q	As a matter of fact, the decisions of the
Liaison	Conferences had such weight during that
period	that, practically speaking, they were always
approve	d by the Cabinet and the Imperial Conference,
is that	not so?
A	Generally, yes.
	MR. ROBERTS: Just a minute, please.
	ACTING PRESIDENT: What was the reply of
the wit	ness?
	THE MONITOR: "Generally, yes."
1.	THE WITNESS: I have not completed my reply
	ACTING PRESIDENT: Go ahead.
	MR. ROBERTS: When you see me approach the
lectern	, will you please withhold your reply.
1 4	ACTING PRESIDENT: You may complete your
reply.	
A	(Continuing) However, the Liaison Confer-
ence was	s a conference between the high command and
the gov	ernment, and I do not think that purely
politica	al matters were discussed at these confer-
ences.	
Ç	In these Liaison Conferences, you and

General MUTO made various explanations and even

participated in the deliberations, did you not?

We have never participated in the

deliberations.

Q Admiral, you state in your affidavit that the Japanese Navy did not desire war. Did you share in that attitude?

A Yes.

Q Is it not true that on 14 October 1941, when the KONOYE Cabinet was deadlocked, the Army offered to give way if the Navy would come out definitely against war?

A I have written in my affidavit that I heard of this from the Chief Cabinet Secretary, TOMITA. The situation was exactly as I have described.

Q Is is not also true that when this offer was reported to you by Chief Secretary TOMITA you refused to do this and left the matter up to the Prime Minister?

A May I explain the circumstances with regard to that; may I?

Q You may.

A On the 14th, TOMITA came to me on a visit, and he spoke -- and he told me to the effect that the Cabinet had reached a decision to resign en bloc, and during the course of the conversation TOMITA said that the Director of the Military

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Affairs Bureau of the War Ministry had said such and such, and I heard from TOMITA that he said at that time to the Director of the Military Affairs Bureau that that would be a difficult thing. Thereupon I said, "Yes, it is difficult," and told him that the Navy has constantly pursued the policy of leaving the matter up to the Prime Minister.

It was already the night of the 14th at that time, when TOMITA came, and the Cabinet had already arrived at a decision to submit its total resignation. Hence, this matter was brought to my attention merely by way of information, because such a decision had already been arrived at.

At that time, I told TOMITA that the resignation of the KONOYE Cabinet was extremely regrettable in connection with the successful culmination of the Japanese-American negotiations. And, thereupon, I told TOMITA if there was any room left, how about calling together the Four Ministers Conference which had been discontinued -- be resumed in order to impart the whole information -- the full facts to the entire Cabinet. At this point, TOMITA said it was now too late because the Cabinet had already arrived at a decision to resign.

The circumstances are exactly as I have

stated in my affidavit.

Q Notwithstanding your denial, is it not fair to state that the failure of the Navy to definitely oppose war was the decisive factor which enabled the Army leaders to force the nation to go to war against the United States and that you personally share in this responsibility?

IR. ROBERTS: I object on the ground that he is asking this witness to forswear the issue.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Objection sustained.

Q With regard to the final note to Washington, about which you testified yesterday, was it not true that for several days before the final draft was approved you, as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau, and the defendant MUTO, as Chief of the Military Affairs Bureau, were in frequent contact with the Foreign Office in connection with the drafting of many revisions of that note?

A I have no recollection of such a fact.
I told the whole story yesterday.

Q Is it not a fact, however, that Admiral ITO, you, and General MUTO frequently contacted the Foreign Office, presenting the Navy's view that no warning should be given which should endanger the surprise attack?

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I have never contacted the Foreign Minis-
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     try to any such effect.
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         ACTING PRESIDENT: We will adjourn until
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     one-thirty.
                   (Whereupon, at 1200, a recess was
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         taken.)
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AFTERNOON SESSION

The Tribunal met, pursuant to recess, at 1330. MARSHAL OF THE COURT: The International Military Tribunal for the Far East is now resumed. ACTING PRESIDENT: Commander Cole.

TAKAZUMI OKA, an accused, resumed the stand and testified through Japanese interpreters as follows:

CROSE EXAMINATION

BY COMMANDER COLE (Continued):

O Admiral, on page 20 of your affidavit you stated that in regard to giving the United States notice of commencement of hostilities you thought the Foreign Office would take the proper procedure, and therefore you entertained no concern over its progress. Do you mean that you entertained no concern for yourself, because you thought the defendant TOGO was alone responsible?

My meaning is this: That diplomatic documents or the formalities connected therewith, or diplomatic procedure, are matters under the charge of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. In connection with such matters, as far as the Navy Ministry is concerned, it has no

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responsibility. Hence, in so far as my -- the authorities in my department or ministry were concerned, we
would warn or give advice or propose revisions in so far
as such guidance occurred in our minds, but inasmuch
as the Foreign Office was handling such matters on its
cwn responsibility, we agreed to whatever final conclusion was reached by the Foreign Office.

As for the Navy Ministry, such matters were not only outside of its duties, but it had no experience or expert knowledge on such matters. It is in that sense that I made the statements that you find in my affidavit -- It is in that meaning that I felt as I have stated in my affidavit.

Admiral, is it not a fact that on December 8, 1941, at about 4:00 A. M., on the morning of the Pearl Herbor attack, you telephoned Foreign Minister TOGO and reported to him on the success of the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor?

A I don't recall, but such a thing is possible.

o From what source did you receive the informa-

A The information -- I was informed to that effect by my subordinates, but I should think that my subordinates obtained their information by interception of radio reports.

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I don't remember ever having imparted such information to the Foreign inistry -- Foreign Minister, and the fact of my statement to the effect that my subordinates might have informed me is merely a supposition on my part.

Q Do you admit that about four o'clock on the morning of December 8, 1941 you learned about the success of the Pearl Harbor attack?

A Yes, I might have been informed about that time with regard to that matter, but it is not in my recollection now.

O Do you deny that you had such a telephone conversation with the defendant TOGO?

A I do not deny it because such a thing is possible, but it is not in my recollection.

neetings of the investigation committee of the Privy Council only as an explainer and did not participate in the decisions.

A Yes, that is so.

Regardless of that, is it not true, however, that after every investigation committee meeting was held you attended a meeting of the Privy Council itself?

A No, I was not always in attendance.

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24 25 O Did you not participate in the decisions of such Privy Council meetings?

A I have never participated in any decisions.

O You attended the meetings of the investigation committee of the Privy Council held on 8 December 1941 at 7:30 A. M., at which the bill for declaration of war was unanimously adopted, did you not?

A I have no clear recollection, but probably I attended as an explainer.

COMMANDER COLE: In connection with the last answer of the witness, the prosecution refers the Tribunal to exhibit 1241, record page 10,690.

o Is it not a fact that on December 8, 1941, after the investigation committee meeting was ended, a Privy Council meeting was held at 10:50 A. 1. which heard the report of the investigation committee and discussed the measure proposing a declaration of war?

A I don't quite recall.

Q Is it not a fact that you attended that meeting of the Privy Council?

A That, too, I do not recall, but probably I did attend as an explainer.

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And at this meeting of the Privy Council neither you nor the other committee members were asked to retire prior to the decision, were you? A At any meeting of the investigation committee when a decision is taken no one is there. We are not there. By "we" do you mean the explainers? 0 À Yes, that is what I mean. At this meeting of the Privy Council at 10:50 a. m. on December 8, 1941, you were present and joined in the unanimous decision in favor of a declaration of war; that is true, is it not? There is no case whatsoever of my participating in the decision, but I have no recollection whether I was in attendance there or not. COMMANDER COLE: May the witness be shown IPS document 1087? ('Thereupon, a document was handed to the witness.) "ill you examine that document and state whether it shows that you and General MUTO attended a Privy Council meeting on 8 December, 1941?

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Are the facts stated in this document sub-

who are reported to have been present.

In this document I am included among those

stantially correct, so far as you know?

(Examining) I don't remember the contents and I cannot say on the face of this whether it is correct or not. However, this appears to be a document of the Privy Council and was prepared by the Privy Council.

COMMANDER COLE: IPS document 1087 is offered in evidence.

MR. ROBERTS: I object to it on the ground that this document has not been sufficiently identi-

ACTING PRESIDENT: Objection sustained. 13 BY COMMANDER COLE:

? In your affidavit you state that there was 15 no special department in the Navy Ministry for the 16 handling of prisoners of war. Is it not a fact that 17 the Naval Affairs Bureau handled matters relating to 18 prisoners of war subsequent to 7 December 1941?

19 A It handled lisison work within the country with matters relating to prisoners of war. The situation was exactly as I related yesterday during the course of additional direct examination.

Q I don't believe you explained what that liaison work consisted of. Will you explain at this time?

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15 no special department in the Navy Ministry for the
16 handling of prisoners of war. Is it not a fact that
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18 prisoners of war subsequent to 7 December 1941?

A It handled liaison work within the country
with matters relating to prisoners of war. The situation was exactly as I related yesterday during the
course of additional direct examination.

Q I don't believe you explained what that liaison work consisted of. Will you explain at this time?

A In connection with prisoners of war, if
there were matters which required contact or liaison
with the army, we handled that. If there were facts,
any matters which required liaison with the Foreign
Office or the Home Office, our department handled that,
and in accordance with needs, if and when they arose,
we also handled liaison with the naval units which
happened to have prisoners of war in their hands.

- Q The navy kept prisoners of war in temporary camps prior to turning them over to the army, isn't that so?
 - A Yes, in some cases.
- Q How long did the navy retain these prisoners of war before turning them over to the army?
 - A I don't know the details.
- You testified before the Tribunal yesterday that the Navy Minister had supervisory powers over local commanders of naval stations in the supervision and control of prisoners of war, isn't that true?
- A No, it seems the meaning is a little different.
 - Q Will you explain?

A The highest authority in connection with supervision over prisoners of war were the commanders of naval stations, commanders of a fleet, and command-

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 ers of naval guard areas. The Navy Minister supervises naval commanders and others in like position in his capacity as one supervising naval officers.

O Is it not a fact that you, as Chief of the Bureau of Naval Affairs, issued orders concerning the prisoners of war held in these temporary camps?

THE MONITOR: Correction on the previous answer by the witness: "Naval officers" should be replaced by "naval personnel."

A (Continuing) I have no recollection of the Naval Affairs Pureau issuing such orders.

Q With reference to the 98 American civilianscaptured on Wake Island in December 1941 and later
executed by Admiral SAKAIBARA in 1943, you in your
capacity as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau had
supervisory control over such captured civilians, did
you not?

A No, not at all.

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A No. not at all.

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Q As Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau you could have ordered the transfer of these prisoners of war from the temporary camp on Wake Island to a prisoner of war camp in Japan, is that not so?

A I don't quite remember the circumstances but I remember saying, after being informed that there were prisoners of war in Wake Island, that it would not be wise to hold such prisoners of war in a distant, isolated island and that it would be better to transfer them to the Japanese homeland; and my recollection is that these prisoners of war were transferred to the Japanese home islands after consultation with various other bureaus and departments in the Navy Ministry. In such matters the Naval Affairs Bureau has no authority to issue orders.

Q Is it not a fact that on or about 30 Novomber 1943 you as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau ordered 38 prisoners of war to be transferred from the Ofuna temporary camp to the Army prisoner of war camp at Tokyo?

A I have absolutely no recollection of such a matter. Such matters were purely routine business matters and these matters were handled as a matter of course by my subordinates either in my name or in the name of the Naval Affairs Bureau and there are

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many such matters which are not within my knowledge.

That is one of the items requiring internal liaison work, that is to say, liaison work within Japan which the Naval Affairs Bureau handled when necessary.

Whenever any demands came from the field, or requests came from the field, for the transfer of prisoners of war to the Japanese homeland, the Naval Affairs Bureau performed the liaison work with the necessary authorities.

THE MONITOR: Substitute for "the Japanese homeland," the words, "to the Army."

COMMANDER COLE: May the witness be shown IPS document 2367?

(Whereupon, a document was handed to the witness.)

Q Will you examine this document and state whether it is not a secret order issued by the Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau at the time you held that office to the Chief of the Army Military Affairs Bureau concerning the transfer of 38 prisoners of war from Ofuna prisoner of war camp?

A This is not an order. This, as I have already referred to, is one of the items requiring liaison work. As I have said before, such matters as these were handled in my name or in the name of the

Naval Affairs Bureau and, therefore, I did not then see any documents of this kind nor have I any recollection of this.

May I make clear again that this is not an order but an inquiry in connection with liaison work.

Q Irrespective of whether you ever saw this particular document, is it not true that it was issued by the Bureau of Naval Affairs at the time when you were the chief thereof?

A It may be thought so but I do not have sufficient data to confirm it.

Q Do you recognize the seal of the Prisoner of War Information Bureau which appears on the first page?

A It appears to be a copy of what is represented as a seal of the Prisoner of War Information
Bureau but it is not the seal itself. Also, under the
words Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau there is a
red square indicating the seal of the Chief of the
Naval Affairs Bureau but it is not the seal itself.

Q Do you have any reason to believe that the facts stated in this document are not substantially correct?

A As I have said before, I do not know because I did not personally handle this matter and because I

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have no recollection of this matter.

 Q Did you as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau ever order the transfer of prisoners of war from South Seas areas to prisoner of war camps in Japan?

A I have no recollection.

Q Is it not a fact that on or about 19 October 1942 as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau you ordered the evacuation of 1,000 prisoners of war from Macassar to Sasebo Naval Station?

A Such matters as these were handled in accordance with requests made by the authorities in the field as a routine business. I was not informed of a matter of this kind and I do not recall anything pertaining to it.

Q Did you not on the same date direct that Sasebo Naval Station should turn these 1,000 prisoners of war over to the Army and that the 1,000 prisoners of war should be used en bloc for work at the Koyaki-jima dockyard at Nagasaki?

A I have no recollection. I do not think there were any such directions but at least I do not remember.

Q And did you not direct on the same date that the War Ministry Prisoner of War Control Department should furnish 100 prisoners of war for work in each of four factories which were under the charge of the Navy at Osaka and Hiroshima?

A I have absolutely no recollection of that.

of four factories which were under the charge of the Navy at Osaka and Hiroshima?

A I have absolutely no recollection of that.

CO.A.ANDER COLE: May the vitness be shown IPS document 3262?

(Whereupon, a document was handed to the witness.)

whether it appears to be an order from the Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau at the time you held that office addressed to the Chief of the War Linistry Prisoner of War Control Department, dated 19 October 1942, concerning one thousand prisoners of war to be evacuated from Lacassar to Japan?

A Like the last document referred to, this is not an order but an inquiry in connection with a matter requiring liaison.

Q Do you recognize the seal of the Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau on this document?

A There is no seal whatsoever. It only says there is a seal.

O Do you deny that the facts stated in this document are substantially correct?

A Inasmuch as I did not see these documents at the time, and having no recollection, I cannot confirm it.

Q Admiral, is it not a fact that the prisoners of war at Ofuna temporary prisoner of war camp were

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given inadequate food and medical care and were severely beaten with clubs with the result that many of them died or were permanently injured?

A I have never heard of matters of such a nature.

Q Is it not also a fact that members of Allied submarine crews and Allied airmen were singled out for particularly brutal treatment while at Ofuna?

A With regard to the Ofuna temporary prisoner of war camp, I have never heard of the kind of prisoners of war held there nor how many were held there, and matters such as just indicated by you were never brought to my attention.

Q Did you ever inspect Ofuna camp or cause it to be inspected?

A I do not think there was. Correction: I do not think I did.

On page 34 of your affidavit you state that a report covering the name and rank of all prisoners of war held by Navy units came within the jurisdiction of the Naval Affairs Bureau. By this you meant that such reports were forwarded to the Bureau of Naval Affairs from the naval units, did you not?

A No, I am referring to inquiries transmitted to the Navy ministry by the Foreign Office, and I

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referred to this -- which are referred to in order to reply to such inquiries. It is stipulated that the list of names, the number and the personal effects of prisoners of war are to be directly notified to the Prisoners of War Information Bureau by the naval units in the field. Details are not forwarded to the Navy Ministry. They are forwarded only upon specific requests. And when necessary, inquiries are made by the Navy Ministry in order to provide the

Q Did not the Bureau of Naval Affairs handle those inquiries?

information requested by the Foreign Office.

A When necessary, inouiries were handled by the Naval Affairs Bureau.

And in the course of handling those inquiries, did the Bureau of Naval Affairs make a report to the Foreign Minister?

A The list of names are known to the Prisoners of Ver Information Bureau. If inquiries are addressed there, the information could be supplied by that department. And I think that whenever the Foreign Office required certain information, it was able to obtain them from the Information Bureau. When necessary, there are times when the Naval Affairs Bureau could handle incuiries and make the necessary communi-

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cation to the Foreign Office, but whether it actually did it or not I do not know.

CROSS

Tribunal that from 7 December 1941 to 21 August 1945 the Japanese Foreign ministry received forty notes from the United States Government asking for information about United States civilians captured by the Japanese Navy on Wake Island. Did you ever receive from the Foreign ministry a request for information as to such prisoners of war on Wake Island held by the Navy?

I learned of them for the first time in this Tribunal.

And as for me, I tried my hardest to trace back my recollections in an effort to refresh them and made inquiries in order to do so, but was unable to recall anything. Such matters as these being purely routine liaison matters, I do not know whether even my subordinates handled them. With regard to this matter, I have absolutely no recollection.

Q Do you mean that the defendant TOGO failed in his duty to forward such notes of request to you?

A No, I do not think that way. The situation was exactly as I have already told you in response to your question.

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Q Evidence has been presented to this Tribunal by defense witness YAMAMOTO, Yoshio, who served as Chief of Section I of the Naval Affairs Bureau from 1942 until 1945, that the Naval Affairs Bureau did receive some protests concerning the perpetration of atrocities on the survivors of Allied merchant ships sunk by Japanese submarines in the Indian Ocean. Did you ever see or hear of such protests?

A In reference to what year?

Q In reference to any of the years during which you were the Chief of the Bureau of Naval Affairs.

A During my tenure of office I have never seen one.

COMMANDER COLE: In connection with the last answer of the witness, prosecution refers the Tribunal to the testimony of defense witness YAMAMOTO, Yoshio at record page 27,382.

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ACTING PRESIDENT: "ith reference to these two alleged orders of the Eureau of Naval Affairs relative to the movement of prisoners, they should be admitted for identification.

MR. ROBERTS: May I remind the Tribunal the

witness said they were inquiries, and I also join in the request they be marked for identification.

CLERK OF THE COURT: Prosecution document

3267 will receive exhibit No. 3477 for identification
only. Prosecution document 3262 will receive exhibit
No. 3478 for identification only.

("hereupon, prosecution documents
Nos. 3267 and 3262 were marked prosecution
exhibit No. 3477 and No. 3478 for identification.)

Irrespective of whether you personally ever
saw such protests, the Chief of the First Section,
YAMAMOTO, Yoshio, who served under you, has testified
that some protests were received. Will you state what
action was taken by your bureau upon those protests?

MR. ROBERTS: I object on the ground that this
question has already been answered.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Objection sustained.

THE WITNESS: I should like to say a few words.

25 May I?

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ACTING PRESIDENT: There is no question before

you now, Mr. Witness.

THE WITH SS: It is with regard to the last question.

COMMANDER COLF: Not at this time. Your counsel will give you an opportunity later.

Q Evidence has been presented before this
Tribunal that the Japanese Foreign Minister, by
letters dated 12 February 1944 and 11 July 1944, forwarded notes of protest concerning treatment of prisoners of war to the Navy Minister. What action was
taken by your bureau with respect to these protests?

exactly, but the general handling of such documents was this, that in order to investigate into the contents of any incident inquiries would be addressed to the unit in which an incident occurred in order to assemble all the information pertaining to the incident. And it is only after a full investigation and a full ascertation of the truth or otherwise of the facts that replies are prepared. And so insofar as these matters were concerned up to this point they were handled through the ordinary channels and such matters required a considerable length of time, I should think.

I have had occasion to examine the various protests entered into evidence at this trial, protests

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covering a period during which I have held office as --I held my office, and of course I did not know of these matters at the time and I discovered that most of these matters had very little relationship with the Navy. And so generally I think that the Prisoner of War Information Bureau had pretty nearly all the data, all the information necessary upon which to draw up replies. And it is my recollection that copies sent to the Navy Minister or the Vice Navy Minister were sent to them for reference purposes only.

COMMANDER COLF: In connection with the last 12 enswer of the witness, the prosecution refers the Tribunal to exhibit 2173 in evidence at record page 15,513 and to exhibit 473 in evidence at record page 5,492.

In view of the fact that the evidence before this Tribunal shows that copies of protests were received both by your superior officers, the Navy Minister, and by your subordinate, the Chief of the No. 1 Section of the Naval Affairs Bureau, do you still deny that you ever saw or heard of any such protests?

MR. ROBERTS: I object on the ground that the question has already been answered.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Objection overruled.

Unless I see a specific document I wouldn't

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know, but generally speaking I do not think I have ever seen any protests. And speaking of these protests, even if copies of them were sent by the Foreign Office to the Ministry of the Navy so many of the matters did not relate to the Navy at all so it was customary not to see these protests at all. Do you admit that it was the responsibility of 7 the Japanese Government to see that prisoners of war 8 were humanely treated? 9 Yes, I do. 10 MR. ROBERTS: I object to that. 11 ACTING PRESIDINT: Objection sustained. 12 MR. ROPIRTS: May the answer be stricken? 13 " Q What action did you, as Chief of the Naval 14 Iffairs Bureau, take to see that prisoners of war held 15 in temporary Navy camps were humanely treated? 16 MR. ROBERTS: I object to that. It has already 17 18 been answered. ACTING PRESIDENT: Objection sustained. 19 COLDIANDER COLE: No further cross-examination. 20 21 ACTING PRISIDENT: I have two or three questions 22 here from a Member of the Tribunal.

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BY THE ACTING PRISIDENT:

Nhat was the function of the Navy Ministry with regard to territories occupied by the Navy?

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1	A May I have the question repeated?
2	(Thereupon, the question was repeated
3	by the interpreter.)
4	A Matters pertaining to military government in
5	occupied areas.
6	Q What were its functions with regard to
7	prisoner of war camps in those territories?
8	A The responsibility for control over prisoners
9	of war resided in the naval unit exercising the control,
0	and the highest authority for control of prisoners of
1	war was the commander of the naval fleet over the naval
2	unit controlling the prisoners of war.
3	ACTING PRISIDENT: I think the other question has
4	better be postponed until after the recess.
5	We will now recess for fifteen minutes.
6	(Whereupon, at 1445, a recess was
7	taken until 1500, after which the proceedings
8	were resumed as follows:)
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Military	Tribunal	for	tho	Far	East	is	nov	resumed
BY ACTINO	PRESIDE	NT (C	Cont	inue	d):			

Q I understood you to say in reply to the last question asked you before the recess that the control of prisoners in territories occupied by the navy was entirely in charge of the Commander of the Fleet. Is that correct?

A That is with regard to prisoners of war temporarily interned by the navy prior to their transfer to the army.

Q Do you call those temporarily interned that were held on Wake Island for approximately two years?

A All prisoners of war held by the navy are considered to be held temporarily.

Q From that I assume that you mean that the Navy Minister has no control whatsoever over them?

A The Navy Minister did not have any direct authority over the control of prisoners of war.

Q Exhibit No. 628 is entitled, "Japanese Foreign Policy." With reference to Dutch East Indies on page 8 of the English copy, this is stated:

"If any of the important natural resources should be destroyed, all the persons connected with the raw material, the government officials concerned, shall be severely punished as being the responsible

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is now resumed.

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persons. (This matter should be announced widely beforehand by radio and other means.)"

The question is: were there any discussions in the Navy Ministry as to the means to insure that the Netherlands East Indies oil fields should not be dustrayed?

I have no recollection that such a discussion was held.

Did the Navy Ministry discuss with officials of the Foreign Office the plan called "Tentative Plan for Policy towards Southern Regions," which is the exhibit which I just referred to?

A May I inquire the date of the document just referred to?

Q At any time while you held your position in the Navy Ministry.

What was the name of the document referred to?

It is the document I just read to you. 0

May I ask that it be repeated? A

MR. ROBERTS: Is there a possibility of the witness's seeing this document, if the Court please? ACTING PRESIDENT: It is only a short paragraph. He may be shown the Japanese copy, exhibit

628. If you haven't it here I will read this. This

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is entitled, "Tentative Plan for Policy towards Southern Regions," and as to the Dutch East Indies the paragraph I read before:

"If any of the important natural resources should be destroyed, all the persons connected with the raw material, the government officials concerned, shall be severely punished as being the responsible persons."

MR. ROBERTS: May I request the date on that document, please?

ACTING PRESIDENT: 4th of October, 1940.

A Not having been appointed to the post of Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau on that date, October 4, 1940, I do not know how that document was handled or what it is all about. I am unable to understand.

Q You were appointed Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau on October 10, 1940, were you not?

A I was appointed on October 15.

Q All right. After October 15 were these plans discussed with the Foreign Office?

A Well, I do not recall this study draft, and I have no recollection in connection therewith.

Q So you would not know whether they were discussed also with the general staff?

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No, I do not.
            ACTING PRESIDENT: That is all.
            Mr. Roberts.
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REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. ROBERTS:

Q Mr. OKA, on cross-examination yesterday,
Mr. Blakeney questioned you concerning your interrogation by a representative of the International Prosecution Section, and referred to an alleged discussion
between TOGO and Admirals NAGANO and ITO, and you
answered that the answer should have been that you did
not recall it.

I ask you if you were then not asked the following question, and if you did not make the following answer on the same interrogation:

"Q Do you not recall your conversations with NAGANO and ITO in which you also supported them in their stand that the war should be started with a maximum effectiveness and, therefore, no notice should be given to the United States before attack? This was after the decision to wage war and the notice to attack.

"A I don't remember it."

Do you recall that as being the question and

answer?

Q Were the following questions then put to you, and did you not make the following answers:

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"Q You do remember that there was a discussion between TOGO, NAGANO, and ITO, don't you?

"A I heard after the war had begun that there was a discussion between TOGO and ITO.

"Q What did you hear?

"A Before the attack I had not heard it, and the first time I heard it was from American sources.

The first time you heard that ITO and TOGO had an argument about the time of attack was from American sources?

"A I heard it after the war for the first time.

My information came from the demobilization board which was set up after the war."

Were those the questions and answers given?

A It seems different. I think there is some mistake with regard to such matters as American sources or that I heard after the war broke out. It appears that the last two answers are the correct ones.

- Q I will read the next question and answer:
- "Q And then not from American sources?
- "A It did not come from American sources."

 Is that correct?
- A Yes, that is correct.
- Q Now, with respect to the meeting that you had with KAGESA in 1938, did you receive the orders from

anyone concerning this meeting?

A It was in accordance with a suggestion made by the Prime Minister and with the permission of the Vice-Minister and the then Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau.

THE MONITOR: Strike out "with the permission" and insert "at the orders of."

- Q What was the purpose of that meeting?
- A Exchange of information,
- And were you then required to report the information back to the Vice-Minister?

A I had the duty of reporting to the Vice-Minister and the Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau.

Now, in 1941 did Navy Minister OIKAWA advocate withdrawal of the Japanese troops from China?

A Yes, he did. And I have heard that he advised accordingly to Prime Minister KONOYE.

- Q Lid you support that view?
- A Yes.
- Q Did YAMAMOTO, Yoshio, remain in his post after you vacated your post as Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau?

A He continued to be in that position after I had vacated the post of Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau and Vice-Minister.

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Mr. OKA, did you ever personally issue any orders relative to the treatment of prisoners of war?

No, I have not.

Was it your duty to visit or inspect prisoner of war camps?

No. it was not my duty.

Was the question of the time interval between the delivery of the note and the attack on Pearl Harbor ever discussed at the liaison conference?

No, it was not.

MR. ROBERTS: That completes the redirect examination.

ACTING PRESIDENT: The witness will take his place in the dock.

(Whereupon, the witness was excused.)

MR. ROBERTS: At this time I want to refer to exhibit 120, which is a copy of the personnel record of the accused OKA, only for the guidance of the Court, and I want to point out that the last page on the English copy seems to be missing. I think that is a matter that should be corrected by the prosecution.

COMMANDER GOLE: The prosecution will see that the document is corrected.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Very well.

MR. ROBERTS: That completes the presentation

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on behalf of the defendant OKA.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Are you ready to take up the question of the commission which took the testimony of Baron SHIDEHARA?

MR. BROOKS: If your Honor please, I am ready to take it up at this time.

I understand there is a language correction or two that I think should be made possibly at this time.

LANGUAGE ARBITER: (Captain Kraft) If the Tribunal please, the following language corrections are submitted as given on the language correction sheet submitted.

MR. BROOKS: May they be capied then into the record as though they had been read, if your Honor please?

ACTING PRESIDENT: They should be.

I understand that this witness is a part of the defense of the defendant MINAMI.

MR. BROOKS: If your Honor please, this witness is a former prosecution witness from whom I have taken an affidavit upon three specific points. And I wish to enter an objection, if it is proper to do so at this time, to the report of the commission and move that the matter be struck from the last

question on page 10 to the last question on page 63 as being improper cross-examination, not within the scope of the affidavit.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Before we go into that, I would like to get it straight on the record that this affidavit is being presented as part of the defense of the accused MINAMI.

MR. BROOKS: That is right. The affidavit referred to therein, defense document 1964, is the affidavit of SHIDEHARA, Kijuro on behalf of the accused MINAMI.

If your Honor please, as to the report of the commission.—the record of the proceedings of the commission, taking the deposition of SHIDEHARA at his home on November 11 -- I offer at this time, which I understand is proper -- I offer at this time to introduce this record of the proceedings into evidence, except for the parts that I ask to be deleted from page 10 to the last question of page 63 on the basis of the objection that it is not proper cross-examination; that part.

If the Tribunal please, I wish to make some explanation for the reasons of my objections thereon. However, I understand one of the other defense counsel also wishes to object to certain portions of this

ACTING PRESIDENT: It seems to me that so long as the Court has appointed the commissioner, that the Court should hear the report of the commissioner, subject at that time to any objections that counsel desire to make.

MR. BROOKS: That is what I was trying to do, if your Honor please. I understand that I should make my objections now fully on the ones that I raised at the time, because the commissioner himself did not have the power to pass upon them at that time. Then, that this matter having been argued out, after the Tribunal has ruled that that document be accepted as any other piece of evidence and that part that is acceptable be read into the record.

MR. COMYNS CARR: Your Honor, in my submission, that is a most irregular and inconvenient procedure. The proper procedure is that the document should be read, first of all, the affidavit being read by my friend as submitted to the commissioner and then the cross-examination be read by me. When I reach the point at which my friend wants to take his objection, that is the proper time for him and other counsel who

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ACTING PRESIDENT: It seems to me that so long as the Court has appointed the commissioner, that the Court should hear the report of the commissioner, subject at that time to any objections that counsel desire to make.

MR. BROOKS: That is what I was trying to do, if your Honor please. I understand that I should make my objections now fully on the ones that I raised at the time, because the commissioner himself did not have the power to pass upon them at that time. Then, that this matter having been argued out, after the Tribunal has ruled that that document be accepted as any other piece of evidence and that part that is acceptable be read into the record.

MR. COMYNS CARR: Your Honor, in my submission, that is a most irregular and inconvenient procedure. The proper procedure is that the document should be read, first of all, the affidavit being read by my friend as submitted to the commissioner and then the cross-examination be read by me. When I reach the point at which my friend wants to take his objection, that is the proper time for him and other counsel who

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wants to take it to do so.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Perhaps I did not make myself clear, but that is what I was trying to state.

MR. COMYNS CARR: I should just add that I am not admitting that more than one counsel has a right to take an objection at all.

MR. BROOKS: I would like to be heard on that, your Honor, but Mr. Warren wants to be heard first. I will let it go.

ACTING PRESIDENT: Mr. Warren.

MR. WARREN: Your Honor, I have carefully perused the report of the commission. Defense counsel who were permitted before the commission were limited to two and it was supposed to be confined to the accused MINAMI.

I am sorry, that number was three instead of two.

There was a series of documents, the only documents introduced, all directed to the accused DOHIHARA. They were introduced by the prosecution without notice to counsel or to the accused. I should like to be permitted to make a blanket objection to those documents, and I can save the Tribunal considerable time by going back into the record as to what has occurred before on these things and I think I can

make myself clear. And in furtherance of that, at this time I should like to object to any portion of the record which refers to the accused DOHIHARA and not to the accused MINAMI. I ask that it be stricken and not considered at this time.

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MR. COMYNS CARR: In my submission, your Honor, no discussion should be permitted at this time as to anything being stricken. As your Honor has already indicated, the proper time to take that is when we get to that point in reading the record. Whether the Tribunal will then hear two counsel or one is a matter also to be considered at that time.

MR. WARREN: Your Honor, I object to the introduction of the thing. It is inconceivable to me that the Court would even entertain for one second the thought that I cannot be heard when this is directed at DOIHARA and not the accused MINAMI. I am prepared to argue the whole thing, the affidavit and everything else, as immaterial, incompetent, irrelevant, and not tending to prove or disprove any issues in this case.

ACTING PRESIDENT: One thing is clear, Colonel Warren, and that is this: that the affidavit is presented by the counsel for MINAMI, and that certainly is admissible.

MR. WARREN: I want to handle this matter in the best way for the Tribunal and the best way for all concerned, but when we reach the point in the proceedings where they start to read the introduction of the first document -- they are

introduced as a series from then on -- I don't want him to read one document and object and read another and object. We will have about ten arguments, where one will suffice. That is what I had in mind, sir. I think it is proper procedure.

I don't know yet what counsel has offered in evidence, frankly. He has only offered certain portions.

MR. BROOKS: If your Honor please, I have offered into evidence the record of the proceedings with the exception of the last question on page 10 to the last question on page 63, as being relevant and material in this case, covering both the cross-examination and direct examination, and I objected to the remaining portions as being outside of the scope of the direct examination, outside of the affidavit, and therefore not admissible because it was objectionable, and I'd like toke heard upon that for various reasons.

MR. COMYNS CARR: Your Honor, in my submission, this is a shameful waste of time. The affidavit has been read before the Commissioner in pursuance of the order of this Court, and the cross-examination has been taken before the Commissioner in pursuance of the order of this

Court. It is in evidence as part of the proceedings of this Court, subject to certain objections which were taken by the defense to certain questions which were asked and certain documents as they were tendered. Final decision on those objections was reserved by the Commissioner for the whole Court. Subject to that, the whole record is in evidence, and if my friend doesn't tender it, I shall -- not tender, but if my friend doesn't read it, I shall.

MR. BROOKS: This document is not in evidence until it is marked as an exhibit in this case, and all that was taken there was taken subject to objections at the proper time, and this is the proper time, before it goes into evidence. Any other method of accepting this would allow the prosecution to weasel in new evidence and material that was objectionable and put it before the Court.

I have the right to offer this deposition, the same as any other piece of evidence, and to limit the amount I offer and to take objections to any of the balance as being irrelevant or immaterial or beyond the scope of the Commissioner to hear, and the prosecution should know it.

ACTING PRESIDENT: The document is now on

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ACTING PRESIDENT: The document is now on

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record, the report of the Commissioner having been filed with the Clerk, and consequently it should be admitted, subject to any objection that may be made at the time it is read. If any objections are sustained, they may be struck from the record.

MR. BROOKS: Well, that -- the fact that this is on file with the Clerk does not make it a matter of evidence, if your Honor please, because it has not been offered in evidence except now, and I am offering it.

ACTING PRESIDENT: The report will be admitted.

MR. BROOKS: Yes, your Honor. I have offered this, subject to certain restrictions which the prosecution can argue when we come to that point. I have offered all the report except from page 10 to page 63, which I thought was objectionable and should be argued separately.

ACTING PRESIDENT: You perhaps did not understand the ruling of the Tribunal. The report will be admitted in evidence, subject to any objections that will be made at the time, the proper time, that they come up.

MR. BROOKS: Well, I haven't offered any except that part, your Honor. I don't think I can

be forced to offer something that I have objected to all the time. 2 Maybe I don't understand the Court's ruling: 3 I am trying to, but I offered --4 ACTING PRESIDENT: We do not have to 5 accept your offer. The Clerk will give it an exhibit number. CLERK OF THE COURT: The deposition of 8 SHIDEHARA, Kijuro, taken before the Honorable Mr. Justice Northcroft, Commissioner, on 11 November 10 1947, at the residence of the witness, No. 1219, 11 12 Okamoto-machi, Setagaya, Tokyo, Japan, together 13 with attachments, will receive exhibit No. 3479. 14 (Whereupon, the document above 15 referred to was marked defense exhibit 16 No. 3479 and received in evidence.) 17 ACTING PRESIDENT: We will proceed to read 18 the report tomorrow morning, subject to any objec-19 tions that may be made. 20 The court is adjourned until nine-thirty 21 tomorrow morning. 22 (Whereupon, at 1600, an adjourn-23 ment was taken until Thursday, 20 November 24 1947, at 0930.) 25

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